

# Canadian Gardens---A First Prize St. Thomas Garden

A. J. Elliott, Aylmer, Ont.

A MAN who dreamed of a garden and whose dreams have come true, is W. R. Rewbotham, of St. Thomas, Ont. His is the first prize

eye. The lawn extends some twenty feet north of the house, and for that distance there is a border, between the fence and it on both sides, that is sown

starts from a level with the house, goes west till it meets the garden path, north, along that to the end, jumps across it, then back south to the lawn, then west to the fence nearby, then south to the house line, then east to the lawn. Never have I seen sweet alyssum present so beautiful an effect.

Midway of the lot is the only path. It starts from the lawn, and runs north till it reaches a rustic arbor, circular in shape. The sides of this arbor are built of open rustic sticks, and its peaked roof is shingled with large sections of elm bark. It is a neat affair, and gives a grateful shade to the seats and hammock it contains. Sweet peas are trained up the wood-work. The effect is attractive.

An arch introduces one to this path. A moon flower on one side and a rambler rose on the other also enrich the effect. On the right and left is a new perennial border just started in which year-old *Hemerocallis*, *digitalis*, *columbine*, perennial *phlox*, star anemones, *fuschias* and *gaillardia* grow together, with the interstices planted with *gladioli*, *stocks*, *salvia*, *pinks* and other similar varieties.

On the right is a small park leading to a tent against the east fence for "the kiddies," two sturdy little lads anyone would like to own. Then come rows of onions, lettuce, carrots, beans, tomatoes, cucumbers and late asters, showing that while the eye is to be pleased, the table is not forgotten.

On the left of the path are a *gladioli* bed, rose garden, asters and *stocks*, cel-



Mr. Rewbotham's Home--The Top of the Rustic Arbor in the Garden may be Seen.

garden among those which have competed for the prizes offered by the local Horticultural Society.

I reached its portals one sweltering afternoon in early July, and just the sight of the red pressed brick residence, surrounded by the lawn, and such a lawn! cooled me nicely. On the front, facing the south, were four rustic vases, containing *petunias*, *geraniums*, *smilax* and *holies*, giving me an idea that something might be expected worth talking about in the rear of the house.

The owner, a railroad man, a big Englishman, was out on his "run," and his pleasant little Scotch wife courteously gave me all the information I needed, especially so when she learned that it was to appear in *The Canadian Horticulturist*, a publication they both appreciate and enjoy, and to which she often referred while I was there.

## A BORN GARDENER

As I passed to the rear of the house I was particularly struck with the perfect order, beauty and system displayed. It showed that Mr. Rewbotham is a born gardener, although until quite recently he had no idea that he possessed any talent in this particular line.

After the lawn had been admired, with its composition of a little grass and a bed of white clover, a lovely bank of sweet alyssum forced its presence on the

to sweet alyssum, *stocks* and *convolvulus* or morning glory. This makes a glorious flanking for the lawn. This beautiful alyssum ribbon of pure white



The Path to the Summer House--The Plan of the Garden is Here Revealed